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Approved For Release 2004/10/08 : CIA-RDP81M00980R001800050084-6
30 March 1978

OLC
78-0818/6
DDA

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration
FROM :
Chief, Information and Privacy Staff
SUBJECT : IPS Weekly Report (23-29 March)

1. The Week in Review

	<u>23-29 Mar</u>	<u>1978 Weekly Average</u>
a. New cases logged	150	99.8
b. Cases closed	50	63.9
c. New appeals logged	0	3.8
d. Appeals closed	0	1.5
e. Manpower (man-weeks)	108.9	100.3

2. Spotlighted Requests

a. Janet E. Smith, administrative assistant for the Federation of American Scientists, asked for copies of any records held by the CIA concerning "the mysterious noises and lights that have afflicted the East Coast, Canada, Europe and, possibly, other regions." The director of the Federation, Jeremy J. Stone, recently advanced the theory at a press conference that the noises off the Atlantic Coast had been caused by Concorde flights. The Agency received a similar request a few weeks ago from Robert Todd, one of our UFO buffs.

b. Prof. Bruce Erickson of Culver-Stockton College, Canton, Missouri, requested copies of all files maintained by the CIA on the late Edgar Parks Snow, an American journalist who gained fame through his reporting of the Chinese Communists between 1936 and 1971. Snow died on 15 February 1972. Professor Erickson alleges that Snow was the subject of a CIA investigation.

c. The president of The Newspaper Guild, Charles A. Perlik, Jr., requested copies of any documents in CIA files concerning the Guild. The organization was formerly known as the American Newspaper Guild.

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d. Jonathan Knight, who is the associate secretary of the American Association of University Professors, asked for copies of all files maintained by the CIA on his organization, plus any records concerning past or present contractual arrangements or agreements between the Agency and the Association or any of its personnel. The request letter was obviously patterned after the standard ACLU form letter used to request documents concerning CIA's connections with academic institutions.

e. We received requests from the campus newspapers of the College of William and Mary (The Flat Hat) and Vanderbilt University (The Vanderbilt Hustler) for copies of records pertaining to the Agency's past and present contacts with these institutions or members of their staffs.

3. Spotlighted Responses

a. Two requests from Barry Lando, CBS News, were denied in full. In each case, we replied that the fact of the existence or nonexistence of records relevant to his request was in itself a classified matter involving intelligence sources and methods. The requests were for records concerning negotiations with the Israelis to obtain captured military equipment of Soviet manufacture, and for records of payments to the Israeli Government or Israeli citizens from the DCI's contingency fund.

b. The same reply was sent to Howard Kohn, associate editor of Rolling Stone, in response to his request for access to all documents pertaining to "CIA-sponsored expeditions" to the mountains Nanda Devi and Nanda Pot in the Indian Himalayas.

c. E. J. Applewhite, who resides in Washington, D.C., was provided a copy of the sanitized version of "Clandestine Services History; The Berlin Tunnel Operations," dated 25 August 1967. This history was initially released in connection with a request from David C. Martin of Newsweek.

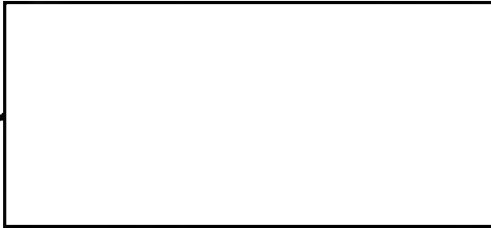
d. Twenty-six documents, 16 of them sanitized, pertaining to Ohio State University were provided to Robert Rudinger, editor of the school newspaper, The Ohio State Daily Lantern. He was informed that the existence or nonexistence of additional records which might reveal any covert CIA connection with the University or its personnel was a classified matter involving intelligence sources and methods. This reply was sent in answer to three requests, all submitted separately by members of the newspaper's staff, for the same material.

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4. Analysis

A review of the first 468 Freedom of Information requests logged during 1978 revealed that only 16 of them (3.4) percent) came from persons who were definitely neither U.S. citizens nor permanent resident aliens. Determination of the citizenship of requesters is not an easy matter, however, since this is rarely mentioned in the request letters. Students with apparently foreign names writing to us from the campuses of U.S. colleges could be foreigners here on student visas, or they could be U.S. citizens. We assumed the latter to be the case. The citizenship of U.S. correspondents for foreign newspapers and periodicals is also often difficult to determine.



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